

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of tracking play of a game, comprising the steps of:
receiving a first set of game outcomes from play of a game associated with a first enterprise, wherein the first set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes;
storing the first set of game outcomes in a database maintained by an enterprise organizationally distinct from the first enterprise and the second enterprise;
receiving a second set of game outcomes from play of a second game associated with a second enterprise independent from the first enterprise, wherein the second set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes; and
storing the second set of game outcomes in the database and
awarding a progressive bonus that is incremented based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with a set of participating progressive bonus players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the set of participating progressive bonus players, and a progressive bonus parameter set;
wherein the progressive bonus parameter set including a time period in which the outcomes in the first set of game outcomes occurred and the outcomes in the second set of game outcomes occurred.
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first set of game outcomes are stored in the database associably with an identity of a player of the game and the second set of game outcomes are stored in the database associably with a player of the second game.
3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of: awarding a bonus based on the stored first set of game outcomes and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with a player.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the progressive bonus parameter set includes:

a minimum qualifying wager.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A method of tracking play of a game, comprising the steps of: receiving a first set of game outcomes from play of a game associated with a first enterprise, wherein the first set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes;

storing the first set of game outcomes in a database;
receiving a second set of game outcomes from play of a second game associated with a second enterprise independent from the first enterprise, wherein the second set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes; and

storing the second set of game outcomes in the database and
awarding a progressive bonus that is incremented based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with a set of participating progressive bonus players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the set of participating progressive bonus players, and a progressive bonus parameter set;

wherein the progressive bonus parameter set includes a time period in which the outcomes in the first set of game outcomes occurred and the outcomes in the second set of game outcomes occurred and further ~~The method of claim 1, wherein: the bonus parameter set includes a first award bonus parameter set and a second award bonus parameter set;~~

a first portion of said the progressive bonus is awarded to one of the participating players based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with the one of the participating players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the one of the participating players and a first award bonus parameter set; and

a second portion of said the progressive bonus is awarded to a subset of the set of participating progressive bonus players based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with a subset of the set of participating bonus players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the subset of the set of participating bonus players and a second award bonus parameter set.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the second portion is the remaining portion of the progressive bonus.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein:
the first award bonus parameter set includes a first qualifying outcome;
the second award bonus parameter set includes a second qualifying outcome;
wherein the first game and the second game are poker games and the outcomes are poker hands;

the first qualifying outcome is a first number of qualifying poker hands; and
the second qualifying outcome is a second number of qualifying poker hands.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
qualifying players selected from the set of participating progressive bonus players for a second bonus based upon the first set of game outcomes and the second set of game outcomes and a second bonus qualifying parameter set; and

awarding a second bonus to at least one of the qualified players based upon the first set of game outcomes and the second set of game outcomes and a second bonus parameter set.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the first set of game outcomes and the second set of game outcomes comprise winning outcomes and losing outcomes; and

the stored first set of game outcomes and the stored second set of game outcomes include the winning outcomes and losing outcomes.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the game is a live table game,

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of receiving the set of game outcomes from play of the game comprises the steps of:

reading a player identification device; and

manually entering the first set of game play outcomes in a device communicably coupleable with the database.

16. (Currently amended) A method of providing an award based on play of a game, comprising the steps of:

accepting a plurality of game play outcomes, the plurality of game play outcomes comprising final outcomes, intermediary outcomes, winning outcomes and non-winning outcomes including losing outcomes;

recording the game play outcomes associably with an identity of the player, wherein the recorded game play outcomes include non-winning outcomes and intermediary outcomes;

comparing the recorded game play outcomes with a bonus parameter set having a qualifying game play outcome requirement and awarding a bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying game play outcome requirement, and wherein the bonus is computed at least in part based on the recorded non-winning outcomes wherein

the bonus is computed at least in part on the recorded intermediary outcomes and the game play outcomes include at least one increment-qualifying outcome;

said the game includes a first progressive jackpot incremented for each increment-qualifying outcome; and said the game includes a second progressive jackpot incremented for each increment-qualifying outcome; and

the step of awarding a bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying combination of game play outcomes comprises the step of awarding the first progressive jackpot to a first player if the first player's recorded game play outcomes match a first progressive jackpot qualifying combination;

the step of awarding a bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying combination of game play outcomes comprises the step of awarding the second progressive jackpot to a second player if the second player's recorded game play outcomes match a second progressive jackpot qualifying combination.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the bonus is awarded if the game play outcomes match the qualifying game play outcome requirement within a qualifying time period.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the qualifying game play outcome requirement is a combination of game play outcomes.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the combination of game play outcomes includes a sequence of game play outcomes.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the sequence of game play outcomes includes wildcard game play outcomes.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein:
the game play outcomes comprise final outcomes including winning outcomes and losing outcomes;

the recorded subset of the plurality of game play outcomes include losing outcomes; and the bonus is computed at least in part on the recorded losing outcomes.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the increment qualifying outcome is a pre-specified final outcome.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein:
the game play outcomes include at least one increment-qualifying outcome;
the bonus comprises a first progressive jackpot and a second progressive jackpot;
the method further comprises the steps of:

incrementing said the first progressive jackpot for each increment-qualifying outcome until said the first progressive jackpot achieves a first progressive jackpot maximum;

after said the first progressive jackpot achieves the first progressive jackpot maximum, incrementing said the second progressive jackpot for each qualifying outcome; and

the step of comparing the recorded game play outcomes with a bonus parameter set having a qualifying game play outcome requirement and awarding bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying game play outcome requirement comprises the step of:

when a first player's game play outcomes match a first progressive jackpot qualifying outcome requirement, awarding said the first progressive jackpot to the first player and awarding said the second progressive jackpot to a set of players if the game play outcomes for each of the set of players match a second progressive jackpot qualifying outcome requirement.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the game is implemented in a gaming device and the step of recording the game play outcomes associably with an identity of the player comprises the steps of:

storing a player identifier and the game play outcomes in a memory communicatively coupled to the gaming device.

29. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the game play outcomes are outcomes of a live table game.

30. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of accepting a plurality of game play outcomes comprises the steps of:

reading a player identification device; and

manually entering at least a portion of the plurality game play outcomes in a device communicably coupleable with the database.

31. (Currently amended) An apparatus for tracking play of a game, comprising:
means for receiving a first set of game outcomes from play of a game associated with a first enterprise, wherein the first set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes;
means for storing the first set of game outcomes in a database maintained by an enterprise organizationally distinct from the first enterprise and the second enterprise;
means for receiving a second set of game outcomes from play of a second game means for associated with a second enterprise independent from the first enterprise, wherein the second set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes; and
means for storing the second set of game outcomes in the database and
means for awarding a progressive bonus that is incremented based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with a set of participating progressive bonus players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the set of participating progressive bonus players, and a progressive bonus parameter set;

wherein the progressive bonus parameter set includes a time period in which the outcomes in the first set of game outcomes occurred and the outcomes in the second set of game outcomes occurred.

32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the first set of game outcomes are stored in the database associably with an identity of a player of the game and the second set of game outcomes are stored in the database associably with a player of the second game.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising:
means for awarding a bonus based on the stored first set of game outcomes and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with a player.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 31 36, wherein the progressive bonus parameter set includes:

a minimum qualifying wager.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently amended) An apparatus for tracking play of a game, comprising:
means for receiving a first set of game outcomes from play of a game associated with a first enterprise, wherein the first set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes;

means for storing the first set of game outcomes in a database;

means for receiving a second set of game outcomes from play of a second game means for associated with a second enterprise independent from the first enterprise, wherein the second set of game outcomes include final game outcomes and intermediary game outcomes; and

means for storing the second set of game outcomes in the database and

means for awarding a progressive bonus that is incremented based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with a set of participating progressive bonus players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the set of participating progressive bonus players, and a progressive bonus parameter set;

wherein the progressive bonus parameter set includes a time period in which the outcomes in the first set of game outcomes occurred and the outcomes in the second set of game outcomes occurred and further The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the bonus parameter set includes a first award bonus parameter set and a second award bonus parameter set;

a first portion of said the progressive bonus is awarded to one of the participating players based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with the one of the participating players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the one of the participating players and a first award bonus parameter set; and

a second portion of said the progressive bonus is awarded to a subset of the set of participating progressive bonus players based upon the stored first set of game outcomes associated with a subset of the set of participating bonus players and the stored second set of game outcomes associated with the subset of the set of participating bonus players and a second award bonus parameter set.

40. (Original) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the second portion is the remaining portion of the progressive bonus.

41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein:
the first award bonus parameter set includes a first qualifying outcome;
the second award bonus parameter set includes a second qualifying outcome;
wherein the first game and the second game are poker games and the outcomes are poker hands;

the first qualifying outcome is a first number of qualifying poker hands; and
the second qualifying outcome is a second number of qualifying poker hands.

42. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising:
means for qualifying players selected from the set of participating progressive bonus players for a second bonus based upon the first set of game outcomes and the second set of game outcomes and a second bonus qualifying parameter set; and
means for awarding a second bonus to at least one of the qualified players based upon the first set of game outcomes and the second set of game outcomes and a second bonus parameter set.

43. (Original) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein:
the first set of game outcomes and the second set of game outcomes comprise winning outcomes and losing outcomes; and
the stored first set of game outcomes and the stored second set of game outcomes include the winning outcomes and losing outcomes.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the game is a live table game.

45. (Original) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the means for receiving the set of game outcomes from play of the game comprises:

means for reading a player identification device; and

means for manually entering the first set of game play outcomes in a device communicably coupleable with the database.

46. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing an award based on play of a game, comprising:

means for accepting a plurality of game play outcomes, the plurality of game play outcomes comprising final outcomes, intermediary outcomes, winning outcomes and non-winning outcomes including losing outcomes;

means for recording the game play outcomes associably with an identity of the player, wherein the recorded game play outcomes include non-winning outcomes and intermediary outcomes;

means for comparing the recorded game play outcomes with a bonus parameter set having a qualifying game play outcome requirement and awarding a bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying game play outcome requirement, and wherein the bonus is computed at least in part based on the recorded non-winning outcomes wherein

said the bonus is computed at least in part on the recorded intermediary outcomes

the game play outcomes include at least one increment-qualifying outcome;

said the game includes a first progressive jackpot incremented for each increment-qualifying outcome; and said the game includes a second progressive jackpot incremented for each increment-qualifying outcome; and

said the means for awarding a bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying combination of game play outcomes comprises means for awarding said the first progressive jackpot to a first player if the first player's recorded game play outcomes match a first progressive jackpot qualifying combination;

said the means for awarding a bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying combination of game play outcomes comprises means for awarding said the second progressive jackpot to a second player if the second player's recorded game play outcomes match a second progressive jackpot qualifying combination.

47. (Original) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the bonus is awarded if the game play outcomes match the qualifying game play outcome requirement within a qualifying time period.

48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the qualifying game play outcome requirement is a combination of game play outcomes.

49. (Original) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the combination of game play outcomes includes a sequence of game play outcomes.

50. (Original) The apparatus of claim 49, wherein the sequence of game play outcomes includes wildcard game play outcomes.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)

53. (Original) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein:
the game play outcomes comprise final outcomes including winning outcomes and losing outcomes;

the recorded subset of the plurality of game play outcomes include losing outcomes; and
the bonus is computed at least in part on the recorded losing outcomes.

54. (Canceled)

55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the increment qualifying outcome is a pre-specified final outcome.

57. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein:
the game play outcomes include at least one increment-qualifying outcome;

said the bonus comprises said a first progressive jackpot and said a-second progressive jackpot;

the apparatus further comprising:

means for incrementing said the first progressive jackpot for each increment-qualifying outcome until said the first progressive jackpot achieves a first progressive jackpot maximum;

means for incrementing said the second progressive jackpot for each qualifying outcome after said the first progressive jackpot achieves the first progressive jackpot maximum; and

said the means for comparing the recorded game play outcomes with a bonus parameter set having a qualifying game play outcome requirement and awarding bonus if the game play outcomes match the qualifying game play outcome requirement comprises:

means for awarding said the first progressive jackpot to the first player and awarding said the second progressive jackpot to a set of players when a first player's game play outcomes match a first progressive jackpot qualifying outcome requirement, if the game play outcomes for each of the set of players match a second progressive jackpot qualifying outcome requirement.

58. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the game is implemented in a gaming device and the means for recording the game play outcomes associably with an identity of the player comprises:

means for storing a player identifier and the game play outcomes in a memory communicatively coupled to the gaming device.

59. (Original) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the game play outcomes are outcomes of a live table game.

60. (Original) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the means for accepting a plurality of game play outcomes comprises:

means for reading a player identification device; and

means for manually entering at least a portion of the plurality game play outcomes in a device communicably coupleable with the database.